

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

CHILDREN'S DIVISION

P.O. BOX 88

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

MEMORANDUM

April 15, 2005

WHAT'S INSIDE?

-Guidelines for the placement of additional children in resource homes where a child has been placed in residential care.

TO: ALL REGIONAL EXECUTIVE STAFF, CIRCUIT MANAGERS AND CHILDREN'S DIVISION STAFF

FROM: FREDERIC M. SIMMENS, DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: GUIDELINES FOR THE PLACEMENT OF ADDITIONAL CHILDREN IN RESOURCE HOMES WHERE A CHILD HAS BEEN PLACED IN RESIDENTIAL CARE.

SECTION 4 CHAPTERS 5: PLACEMENT/REPLACEMENT OF THE CHILD AND,

SECTION 4 CHAPTER 5 ATTACHMENT C GUIDELINES FOR THE PLACEMENT OF ADDITIONAL CHILDREN IN RESOURCE HOMES WHERE A CHILD HAS BEEN PLACED IN RESIDENTIAL CARE.

The purpose of this memorandum is to establish guidelines for the placement of additional children in a resource home where a child has been placed in residential care. No additional children will be placed in the home without the approval of the Circuit Manager or designee. Specific procedures for staff to consider are included in this memo and in the new Section 4.5 Attachment C. This policy enhancement is a result of Regional concern expressed regarding placing additional children in a foster/adoptive home where a child has been placed in residential care. The concern centered around whether the circumstance requiring Residential Treatment of a child would impact the ability to foster additional children in the home.

The following guidelines will assist Children's Service Workers in the consideration of placing additional children in a resource home where a child has been placed in residential care. No additional children will be placed in the home without the approval of the Circuit Manager or designee. The Circuit Manager will consult with the Regional Field Support Manager or Supervisor III when needed. The following information will be presented to the Circuit Manager by the foster/adopt licensing worker and/or supervisor and documented in the case record:

1. The length of time the child has been placed in residential care; the level of involvement of the resource provider with the child in residential care;

2. A detailed report from the Residential Facility therapist that has provided treatment/family therapy for the resource parents and the child-outlining the information requested in number 1-4 of this list;
3. The plan for reunification with the resource family; assess all aspects of the plan, including the identified supports in place;
4. The resource providers desire to work with Children's Division (CD) and other involved agencies;
5. Has the resource parent participated in all staffing and treatment planning meetings regarding the child in residential care, and the other children placed in their home;
6. The family's strengths and needs in accepting additional children into the home as it relates to the children requiring placement;
7. How the resource parent would continue to meet the needs of the child in residential care as well as the additional children placed in their home;
8. Review the number of children currently in the foster home and or the number of children desired in the future;
9. The above information should be provided at Family Support Team meetings regarding any additional children that would be placed in the home by licensing worker and/or/supervisor.

After review and assessment of case, the Circuit Manager or designee will make a decision and notify the local Children's Division office and the resource parent.

NECESSARY ACTION:

1. Review this memorandum with all Children's Division Staff. Review [Section 4.5](#) and [4.5 Attachment C Guidelines for the placement of additional children in resource homes where a child has been placed in residential care.](#)
2. All comments and recommendations regarding this subject should be cleared through normal supervisory channels.

FMS/VES